GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1200
ANSWERED ON:07.03.2007
MOU WITH GULF COUNTRIES
Yerrannaidu Shri Kinjarapu

Will the Minister of OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is considering to sign Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with several Gulf countries like Kuwait, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Oman and Baharin to protect the rights of migrant labourers;

(b) if so, the aims and objectives of the MoUs;

(c) the number of labourers working in Gulf, country-wise;

(d) whether any agreement has been signed for cooperation in manpower recruitment between India and UAE; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF THE STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI VAYALAR RAVI)

(a) & (b): Yes Sir. The proposed Memorandum of Understandings envisage bilateral cooperation in the field of labour, employment and manpower development between India and the Gulf countries. The objectives are promotion of orderly & humane overseas employment, welfare and protection of all categories of overseas Indian workers and addressing labour issues through Joint Committees.

(c) : As per the information provided by the missions, the number of Indians working in the Gulf are as under:

S.No.	Name of the Country	Number of workers
1.	Kuwait	4,77,938
2.	Qatar	2,20,000
3.	Saudi Arabia	12,39,686
4.	Oman	3,68,277
5.	Bahrain	2,18,242
6.	UAE	7,70,000

(d) & (e) : The Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of United Arab Emirates and the Government of India in the field of manpower was signed on 13.12.2006. Specific provisions have been incorporated in the Memorandum of Understanding for promoting overseas employment, extending protection of law to all categories of emigrant workers, preventing illegal migration of workers and constituting a Joint Committee to monitor the implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding and resolve issues connected therewith.